



Minutes

Agenda Item 1 Welcome, apologies and conflicts of interest

The Chair opened the meeting acknowledging country, veterans, current serving Australian Defence Force Personnel and welcomed observers. Members **NOTED** apologies as listed at Annexure A and no conflicts of interest were raised.

Agenda Item 2 Action items

Members **NOTED** the minutes from the last National Aged and Community Care Forum (NACCF) meeting held 18 November 2025 were endorsed out of session.

Members **AGREED** to close action items 2025NACCF/A11, A12, A13, A14, A15, A16, A17, A18.

Members **NOTED** that action item 2025/A19 remains in progress

Agenda Item 3 Aged Care Providers Residents (Member Submission)

Members **NOTED** the update provided by Ben Corcoran, Director Home and Community Care, on the selection process for Aged Care residents. Members **DISCUSSED** the difficulty veterans face in being approved for housing by aged care providers, and the limited availability of aged care facilities. Members also **NOTED** difficulty to identify aged care facilities with availability. Some members reported individual brokers charging fees to locate aged care facilities with availability.

No.	Action	Assigned to
2026NACCF/A01	DVA to return advice if it provides any assistance to identify aged care facilities with availability to the next NACCF meeting	Home and Community Care, DVA

The Deputy Chief Health Officer provided an update to members on how veterans can appropriately prepare to respond to natural disasters and emergencies. This included setting up a network within their local ESO community. Members **NOTED** the update.

Agenda Item 4 Department of Health, Disability, and Ageing (DHDA) General Update

Members **NOTED** the update provided by Michelle Smith, Director DHDA, on implementation of the Support at Home Program. Members **DISCUSSED** how the assessment process will be determined and **NOTED** the recent media the Program. DHDA undertook to share information to assist Members to respond to community questions relating to the Program. DVA also proposed to have a representative from Client Benefits Division attend a future meeting to speak to the differences in the DVA assessment process, as it alters slightly from civilian applications.

No.	Action	Assigned to
20XXNACCF/A02	DHDA to provide members with an information sheet on the Support at Home assessment process.	DHDA
2026NACCF/A03	Support at Home to be placed on a future agenda for DVA to advise on assessment processes for veterans applying for the Program.	Secretariat / DHDA

Agenda Item 5 Legislation Reform Update

Members **NOTED** the update on legislation reform provided by Luke Brown, First Assistant Secretary Policy and Research Division. Members were updated on advocacy training, Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures No. 1) Act 2025 (the VALA Act No.1), and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures No. 2) Bill 2025.

Agenda Item 6 Other Business

Members **DISCUSSED** the timing of future NACCF meetings to start later, so that members in Western Australia are not disadvantaged.

Agenda Item 7 NACCF Communique

Members **AGREED** to endorse the NACCF Communique out-of-session.

Meeting closed: 9:54 am AEDT.

Annexure A

MEMBERS/ATTENDEES	
Tara Cavanagh	Deputy Chair, First Assistant Secretary, Program Delivery, DVA
Anna Colwell	Deputy Chief Health officer, DVA
Luke Brown	First Assistant Secretary, Policy and Research Division
Terence Roe JP	Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia
Kate Hazelton	Legacy Australia
Danny Ryding	Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
CMDR RAN Ward Gainey MIEAUST JP	Vietnam Veterans Federation of Australia
Jenny Gregory OAM	Australian War Widows
Colin Benporath	TPI Federations
Keely Dregghorn	Returned and Services League of Australia
Presenters	
Michelle Smith	Director, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
Ben Corcoran	Director, Home and Community Care, DVA
Secretariat	
Brad Clarke	Assistant Director, International and Stakeholder Relations
Brendan Corbett	Senior Secretariat Officer, International and Stakeholder Relations
Apologies	
Andrew Kefford PSM	Chair, Deputy Secretary, Policy and Programs, DVA
Dr. Steph Davis PSM	Chief Health Officer, DVA
Kahlil Fegan DSC AM	Repatriation Commissioner, DVA
Pauline Cameron	Partners of Veterans' Association of Australia

Next Meeting – 14 July 2026